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April 27, 1962

**MEMORANDUM OF MEETING WITH SECRETARY RUSK, ROGER
BILSMAN, ALEXIS JOHNSON, McCONE, AND OTHERS, FRIDAY,
APRIL 27, 1962.**

Purpose of the meeting was to develop an answer to Chairman Fulbright's letter to Secretary Rusk of March the 16th.

(1) Rusk proposed that we suggest Fulbright establish a small committee (perhaps himself and Hickenlooper) and that Rusk and I brief this committee as I do the Russell committee. I stated CIA could not do this without Russell's approval and I did not think Russell would give the approval. Rusk disagreed with the idea of Russell having this authority. However, the facts are that the authority has been established by custom and practice.

(2) McCone outlined the problems of the Joint Committee, referring to details of his testimony before the Foreign Relations Committee and his suggestion that Fulbright and Russell get together on the plan to expand the Russell committee by the addition of two members of the Foreign Relations Committee and in this way the Russell Committee would be a joint subcommittee of Foreign Relations and Armed Services.

(3) This idea was accepted by all as the most logical and proper solution to the problem and Rusk agreed to phone Fulbright and volunteer his support of this suggestion.

(4) McCone stated that although his plan had been discussed in detail with Russell, Russell's concurrence had not been obtained, and very possibly would not be obtained, and if the question came to an issue, Russell probably had enough strength in the Senate to sustain his position irrespective of Fulbright's desires. Rusk concurred in this.

No action required on our part.

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John A. McCone
Director

JAM:at

1 cc - DDCI

1 cc - Executive Director

1 cc - Mr. Warner

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